

**Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
Crestone Building – 2 – BOCC Conference Room and Zoom
August 28, 2024 at 10:00 am**

Board Members in attendance: Buck Wenzel, Sarah Mudge, Kevin Day, Dana Green, PT Wood, Devin Rowe, Dwayne McFall, Ryan Stevens (proxy for Mayor Smith)

Also in attendance: Heather Evans, Beth Lenz, Chris Henager, Max Hanson, Tom McConaghy, Jessica Rathke, Mary Tinkcom, Robin Olson, Braden Wilson via Zoom, Lauren Snyder

Call to order

Buck opened meeting at 10:06 am and called meeting to order.

Introduction – Lauren Snyder, Deputy County Manager, Lake County

1) Consent Agenda – action item

- a) Minutes UAACOG Board of Directors meeting 6/26/2024
- b) Financial Statements
- c) Loan Reports
- d) Revised Workforce Lease Proposal
- e) Dwayne moved to approve.
Devin seconded.
Approved.

2) Additions/changes to Agenda

3) Program Managers Reports – Director’s overview of Program Manager’s Reports

- a) AAA – Tom introduced Robin Olson as Associate Director; Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program has begun; state candidate forums happening in September and October for Custer and Fremont Counties, maybe Lake and Chaffee Counties as well; Alzheimer’s support groups starting in Custer County; Robin has started end of life and grief support groups in Chaffee, Custer will be next.
- b) Max – Housing Rehab; attended conference in Colorado Springs; state is changing HDG grants process; began using Housing Development Grants funds; adoption of Proposition 123 necessary – this will be a big change.
- c) WIC – Jessica - update on MOU – signed by COG, Valley-Wide, and Park County; entering soft launch September 1, formal start October 1. Heather - Park County director very impressed with how WIC is being run within UAACOG; long-standing goal numbers were finally reached and new goals will be set.

4) New Business

- a) UAACOG Dues for 2024 – action item, Braden Wilson and Heather Evans
Proposed dues for 2025 - New Position Funded; listening to Board and looking to fund new position; numbers per county along with comparison to UAACOG’s total budget.

Heather proposed a new position for a grant navigator. The Board and Focus Groups have been saying they wanted to keep a grant navigator to investigate and assess community needs, expand existing and develop new projects, seek opportunities for funding, focus on transportation, facilitate grant writing, technical support. An external, out-facing role would benefit the entire region. Regional Grant Navigator benefits will help increase ROI; the price for individual communities or counties would be much higher than if they banded together to do projects. Our current funding for this position expires February 1, 2025.

There was much discussion by the Board regarding already strained budgets. Project-based funding for this position would distract from it being a regional resource. Sarah suggested dividing the counties' support by four.

Dwayne moved to table the item so that the Board members could talk to their County Boards.

PT seconded.

Action Item tabled.

- b) Ratification of Revised 2024 Indirect Proposal – action item, Braden Wilson (p 126)
CDOT had concerns for initial rate – it had been miscalculated; has been redone to follow procedure; is now up to date and correct; approved by CDOT. Braden had pursued getting some money back from CFO Systems for the issues that were caused by this and the time that was put into creating the original proposal as well as dealing with the fallout from CDOT and what CFO had charged us. Heather arranged for a \$9,000 reimbursement from CFO Systems. The books have been cleaned up to reflect the correct numbers and will be used moving forward. The rate moved from 11.18% to 9.82%.

No discussion

Buck moved to ratify.

PT seconded.

Item passed.

- c) Head Start Board Training – action item, Chris Henagar
Required by Head Start performance standards. Chris provided information and discussed the following Head Start topics: organizational chart; open managerial and staff positions; Strategic Plan; Policies and Procedures; Code of Conduct; Budget.
- d) Housing Counseling Resolution – action item, Max Hanson (p 136)
Housing Counseling from HUD needed document to authorize our Housing Counseling services; Max wrote Resolution 24-003. In the second paragraph, he wants to replace “provide housing counseling services to its residents and surrounding communities” with “provide housing counseling services to residents of the State of Colorado”. This is mainly for those clients from other areas who take the online e-home America housing counseling course.
Sarah moved to pass along with revision.
PT seconded.
Resolution passed.
- e) UAADC Policies – action item, Dave Paul (p 137)

Took existing policies; made changes regarding UAADC Loan Committee; added changes for collection system and recency delinquency; CDBG – more reporting required now; changes made to grant process; approved by loan committee.

Asked for Board's approval of policies.

Dwayne moved to approve revised policies.

Ryan seconded.

Policies passed.

- f) DOLA Mini-Grants – action item, Heather Evans

There will be \$45,383 remaining after this round of grants; asked for approval to continue after this round.

Buck moved to approve.

Approval given.

5) Old Business

- a) WIC Partnership and Funding Update – informational, Jessica Rathke – covered under Program Manager Reports

- b) AAA New Building Update – informational, Tom McConaghy

Still in permitting phase; groundbreaking last Thursday; summer of 2025 completion

- 6) **Director's Report** General information – written report included in the packet

Mini grants - \$45,000 left after today; Beth has been working really hard on current projects; Community Capacity Building Project has begun; interviews are happening, will move on to steering committee.

Heather will be participating in the Penrose organizational and professional leadership experience through El Pomar and the Center for Creative Leadership; will be attending a portion of the leadership experience the week of September 23rd.

Had a good meeting with Antonio Huerta from Senator Hickenlooper's office regarding the outcome of our focus groups.

Program and Staff Recognition – front line staff needs to be recognized for their service to people who have many needs and challenges.

Upcoming events – Strategic Planning retreat to be held in September.

New accounting and payroll systems and training have begun.

Reminder – federal grant applications need to be sent to Beth to add to State tracking document.

7) County/Community Reports

- a) Randi Snead from DOLA – funding round being wrapped up; examining funding and budget; local funding capacities expanding; opens September 1.

- b) Congresswoman Pettersen's office – Justin Kurth – not in attendance

- c) Senator Hickenlooper's office – Antonio Huerta – not in attendance

- d) Senator's Bennet's office – TBD - not in attendance

- e) Custer County – Kevin Day

Starting budget process; meeting with department heads; finishing audits; making strides to get where they need to be; having issues with possible data breach.

- f) Silver Cliff – Buck Wenzel

Working with HUD for grant to purchase land to develop town square project; working with legislation on CML and help for municipalities.

- g) Fremont County – Dwayne McFall
Good fair at new Pathfinder Park; working on budgets; worried about how they will pan out.
 - h) Canon City – Ryan Stevens
Working on demolition of New Method laundry and dry cleaner building; city council approved .3% sales tax increase for new public pool to go on the ballot in November; \$4M increase for operations of the pool as well as a debt measure; Black Hills has announced an 18% rate increase; city is trying to intervene; public meeting Oct 9.
 - i) Lake County – Sarah Mudge
Justice Center project adjusted to meet the bare minimum; starting water augmentation plan; wildfire work with roundtable process; huge success in DHS and public health co-locating to new clinic to better reach clients and provide better services; school district is in challenging circumstances and will be moving to the elementary school; building 22 new housing units.
 - j) Leadville – Dana Greene
Transportation plans involving a fixed route for public transportation; this year's race series is over; dealing with impact of races; working on goals, action plans, and timelines for next year.
 - k) Chaffee County – PT Wood
North end DMS building is coming along; initial work completed on sheriff's office being moved; thanks for mini grant for new AV facility; two new commissioners coming next year; new website should be live soon; landfill filling too fast; very successful fair; record 4H sale numbers; .5% sales tax increase proposed; land use code should be complete in the next eight weeks.
 - l) Buena Vista – Devin Rowe
Midland apartments are going up; more units being planned for building; annexed in Chicago Ranch next to rodeo grounds for a park expansion in exchange for water.
- 8) Adjourn Board Meeting
Buck asked for motion to adjourn.
Devin moved.
PT seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Griffo